

I am deeply disturbed that police forces used excessive force to prevent students from vocalizing their discontent in an academic setting. I understand that as many as 41 brave individuals were killed on or near the campus at Addis Ababa University, while another 250 persons were injured in an indiscriminate attack by the police forces. The recent action taken by police forces can never be justified.

Although I have strongly spoken out against human rights abuses in Ethiopia before, I wholeheartedly join the Ethiopian community in the United States in denouncing the indiscriminate killings that recently occurred in Ethiopia. Justice must be served swiftly and fairly even though the brutal attack has already exacted an unimaginable toll.

Further, I am somewhat relieved that approximately 2,000 students who were detained by police have now been released. That is not enough, however. As some of you may know, the U.S. Department of State is concerned that dozens of persons who were arrested without warrant remain detained. The United States Government must vigorously call upon the Government of Ethiopia to promptly and unconditionally release all the students that remain in detention. Their freedom cannot be denied.

In the past, I successfully fought for a legislative measure that would prohibit the Government of Ethiopia from receiving aid until human rights abuses are eliminated. We must do more. The people of Ethiopia deserve to be treated humanely by their government.

Mr. Speaker, in the words of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, "We believe that the only whole man is a free man." I hope we can support efforts to bring human rights abuses by government actors in Ethiopia to a halt.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

RICH SANCHEZ LEAVES WSVN AND MOVES TO MSNBC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Rick Sanchez, a beloved television anchor in my district who is leaving WSVN Channel 7 to move on to even greater challenges nationally at MSNBC.

I am sure that many of my colleagues across the Nation have seen Rick's reporting. My colleagues would have seen it years ago when watching an energetic reporter ride along with police to get the real story. My colleagues would have seen it when they watched a young roving reporter absolutely transform a newscast. My colleagues have seen it when they have watched a professional and genuine, but unusual, piece of reporting and thought, "What the heck is happening here?"

That is Rick Sanchez; Rick Sanchez, doing an unconventional but honest

and impassioned style of reporting before that came into current fashion.

Perhaps the name "Rick" really stands for "maverick," for that is what he always has been. His unconventional ways are always talked about. His high-energy, in-your-face style, his use of expressive body language, his colorful adjectives, and his penchant for visual aids brought an interesting element to the traditional newscast.

City Link Magazine voted him the best newscaster ever, saying that "TV has come around to Rick's style. He asks the best questions, and he is not afraid to speak his mind."

Runaway Rick has never shied from danger. He began behind-the-scenes police beat reporting before there was a show which seemed to start that trend. "Maverick Rick" has always been a man of firsts. He was the youngest reporter and anchor hired in south Florida, brought on as a 21-year-old, right out of the University of Minnesota in 1982.

He was the first-ever Cuban American main anchor in south Florida, with the highest-rated newscast among all 10 o'clock newscasts in the Nation. He was the first to have a south Florida talk show. He was the youngest to win an Emmy for his five-part documentary, which aired nationwide, on Cuban American exiles. He has covered world news stories from Nicaragua, Cuba, Haiti, and Grenada.

Even when reporting just from back home, Rick's unique style transformed you to a new place. Who can forget turning on Channel 7 just to see what props Rick had this week? Who can forget the places he has been to, and the places he has taken us to?

This has been quite a journey for the son of a factory worker and a dishwasher, who was born in Havana and came to Miami when he was only 2 years old.

Although his high-profile status has made him a local celebrity, Rick has remained humble and appreciative. He has been the station spokesperson for wonderful organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and DARE, the program to keep kids off drugs.

Rick was honored by the Florida Broadcasters Association and the George Bush White House for his coverage of and his relief effort after Hurricane Andrew. Rick spearheaded an effort to move 60,000 tons of relief supplies while coordinating it with the U.S. Customs and U.S. Coast Guard.

At heart, Rick is a nice guy and a hungry reporter whose hard work and determination has made him the success story that he is today. I have had the pleasure of knowing Rick for years and watching him grow up on television. I have seen his work. I know of his dedication to his family and of his deep service to our community.

Mr. Speaker, as his 20-year south Florida locally based career comes to a close, Rick will not be forgotten by our local area. Now he will be shared by millions nationwide. Rick Sanchez has

never been afraid to ask tough questions, say what is on his mind, and do whatever it takes to get the story and get people to speak.

Thank you, Rick Sanchez, for taking your job seriously and making the news so interesting for us to watch each and every night. I wish you and your family, your wife Suzanne, your sons Ricky, Jr., Robert and Remington, and your newly arrived daughter Savannah, a smooth transition and the best of luck.

Rick, Felicidades! Y muchas gracias por tu servicio. (Thank you for your service.)

MACEDONIAN GOVERNMENT MUST MAKE A CHOICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I think all of us grew up in families where we were taught from an early age to be proud of our ethnic heritage. Millions of Americans were raised in homes where it was not uncommon to hear relatives speak Polish or Italian or Yiddish or Chinese or Urdu or Arabic or any one of dozens of other tongues. But we always understood that no matter what language our family spoke and what their ethnicity, at the core we were all Americans.

Imagine if it were different. Imagine if because your family spoke a different language or honored different traditions, you were barred from being a police officer or working for the Postal Service or even attending college. Imagine for a moment that this bigotry was not only sanctioned by the government but it was actually written into the Constitution.

If my colleagues can imagine that, then they have a pretty good idea what it is like to be an ethnic Albanian living in Macedonia today. Today the Macedonian government is being applauded by leaders worldwide; but has it truly earned its praise? Yes, the creation of the unity government was a step in the right direction. But it was a very small step in a time that calls for great strides, strides that can only begin with acknowledging the reality of today's Macedonia. It is a country whose constitution disenfranchises 33 to 40 percent of Macedonians who are ethnic Albanians.

Mr. Speaker, in any true democracy, equality is conferred by citizenship, not by ethnicity or by religion. That is why the Macedonian government must make a choice. Are they committed to true democracy or to a sham democracy on the order of the one that distinguished South Africa throughout the era of apartheid?

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It is a question we have yet to hear a satisfactory response to.

What we do know is that today ethnic Albanians are treated like second-

class citizens in their own country. We know they are denied the same educational and job opportunities enjoyed by Slavic Macedonians. We know that Slavic Macedonians hold 90 percent of the public sector jobs and they compose 90 percent of the police force and that 90 percent of the university students are Slavic Macedonians. We know that Albanians are even penalized for speaking their own language. Universities which use the Albanian language are actually denied public funds.

Macedonians and Albanians should both have equal opportunities to use their native languages. Albanians are made to suffer in poorly funded schools and universities because they speak, quote, the wrong language. But that is not all. Ethnic Albanians not only have second- and third-rate schools, they have bad roads and inadequate health care.

There might be a time when Macedonia earns our applause, Mr. Speaker, but that time has not arrived and it will not until all of its people are treated equally. It will not until their constitution recognizes ethnic Albanians as citizens of Macedonia. It will not until ethnic Albanians have the right to use their own language. It will not until ethnic Albanians have the right to preserve their own cultural heritage.

Power sharing is not just about who holds the positions in the government. It is about who has what status in a society as a whole.

This is no time for baby steps or token gestures. This is the time for the Macedonian government to take action to remove the institutional discrimination against Albanian Macedonians. This is the time for the Macedonian government to take on initiatives that make amends to the Albanian people.

The challenge of democracy is that it does not ask leaders to do what is easy. It challenges them to stand up and do what is right.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion let me say that I hope that this ethnic violence in Macedonia will cease and it can only cease when equality is brought to all of its people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIBBONS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ENGLISH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LANGEVIN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION IMPROVING THE WAY WE MEMORIALIZE OUR FALLEN HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRUCCI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, with Memorial Day only 12 days from today, veterans' graves are graced with our Nation's flag on Memorial Day in my district as is customary across our Nation since the end of the Civil War.

However, too often these flags are removed immediately after the Monday observation of Memorial Day, not giving the sufficient recognition deserved these fallen heroes. The original intent of Memorial Day was for it to be a time of reflection on our hard-earned freedom and to pay our respects to those men and to those women who made the ultimate sacrifice for the citizens of our Nation and gave their lives to preserve that freedom. Yet today the true meaning of Memorial Day is often lost to a sense of commercialism.

For this reason, local veterans organizations within my district have partnered with one of our national cemeteries, Calverton National Cemetery, to improve the way we memorialize our fallen veterans. They leave the American flags in place until May 31 so that they fly in honor of our brave service men and women through to the original date of Decoration Day, May 30.

The flag is the symbol of America's greatness and all of its compassion, perseverance and values. It is part of the tapestry that has been woven with the lives and the efforts of our men and our women in uniform during times of crises that makes America what it is. It honors those brave service men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that freedom, peace and democracy can be assured to all of us here in this great Nation.

I and my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have sponsored House Resolution 120 which urges all cemeteries to

institute this policy of maintaining the flags placed on the grave sites of American veterans on Memorial Day through at least May 31.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to please join me in honoring those men and women who gave their lives to preserve our freedoms.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. BIGGERT addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. DAVIS of California addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NATIONAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues two items of concern relative to our national security. First of all, about this time last year, we heard a lot of ranting and raving in this Chamber and on national TV, allegations of massive fraud in our missile testing program. In fact, Mr. Speaker, 53 of our colleagues signed a letter to the FBI demanding an investigation of a fraud that was alleged by an MIT professor. The MIT professor said there was abuse, there was waste, that the Defense Department deliberately lied and so did TRW.

We said let us get to the bottom because the investigation of this issue was done before. We have not heard anything from those 53 of our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, but a front page story in Bloomberg Press by Tony Capaccio cites the FBI in February throwing the whole thing out, saying it was nothing but a bunch of hogwash.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the Bloomberg news story, "FBI Clears TRW of Fraud Charge in Missile Defense Test," and the actual FBI document. The Department of Defense has been completely exonerated. For those 53 colleagues and for Ted Postol, I think you owe the Department of Defense an apology.